

RANDOMIZED BIT DISPERSAL OF SENSITIVE DATA SETS

Abstract of the Disclosure

Secure storage of sensitive data sets in virtually insecure storage facilities is accomplished presently by storing small granular portions of the data (e.g. bits or bytes) in a randomly dispersed manner. The data sets contain information which requires secure handling. However, the granular portions are sufficiently small to ensure that they do not per se reveal any sensitive information, and they are so dispersed in storage that the probability of unauthorized access to useful information in any data set is extremely small. As an example of sensitive data subject to handling as presently contemplated, consider information pertaining to credit card accounts including cardholder, names and addresses associated with account numbers and cardholder identifying information such as social security numbers, etc. The present selection and dispersal of granular portions of this data effectively co-mingles portions of different data sets in storage in a random manner. Thus it would be extremely difficult if not impossible for a party acquiring unauthorized access to blocks of storage containing such data portions to be able to extract any useful or sensitive information therefrom.